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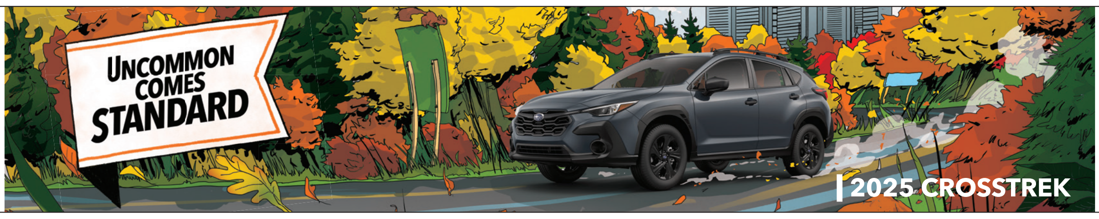
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Healing journey

How one local wants to give back on page 3

Memory Lane

A look out the window of the past on page 4

Paddle on!

Paddle Shop opens up in Minden on page 12

Sunrise on Pelaw Lake. Photo by Laura Smith

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Perchance to dream

Our backyard died last night. It had to. It was late October. Afternoons were still tawny, and breezes had been weaving deceptive warmth around our bare throats. Maybe this fall would be different, some of us wondered. In a nice way. In a strange, but natural way. A stretch of good fortune to prolong summer spirits, to beckon us into lakes, to open last-second nasturtiums and widen windows so house cats might keep listening to the night. But today there's frost on the garden bench. The birdbath suggests a shy skin of ice.

I'm artistically partial to autumn. All greens start consorting with chaos. Too many tomatoes. Goldfinches in feeder-frenzy. Burning bush starts burning. A second pea crop planted last August by my granddaughter is about to flower. Morning glories finally explode all purple and blue over trellises and fence. Lawns scream neon after another cautious bi-weekly mulch.

Although I'm hearing the odd loon and robin, and spot a fainted dandelion or two, I still spill cold coffee into the microwave. My hand betrays me. Am I honestly ready for the next level? Maybe for that gorgeous thin-veil feeling of Halloween. Maybe for wood stoves and warmer suppers. Maybe for better novels and fresher apples. Maybe for giant moons and auroras. Maybe.

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

I'll be ok. I need this round of seasons to carry me full cycle. Back to Canada. To its own ancient nature, still reliable for temperate reruns, theatrical scene-change, alternating costumes, and dramatic sound effects. Every dawn and sunset make brand new paintings, sprawling backdrops for divine worship and humility. Skies inform us. We respond. It's privilege to remember this, to move indoors, to eat, sleep and speak safely, to have Canadian homes at all.

I brew a new coffee. Steadier hand. I've pinched every green mini-tomato and final baby cucumber from its withering stem, already hay-like, final blackened leaves spinning in crisp November circles, setting a separate peace into my weary fingers. Soon enough they'll tug out death by the roots to join the other compost. Life will naturally reformat there for new seasons of kitchen cinema. Dried herbs for scenery. Blade on breadboard for soundtrack. Simmering lids and clinking spoons for dialogue. Tummies for standing ovation.

Some of us rhapsodize when we witness change. Perks outweigh the pitfalls. When senses explode, we can't ignore such transformation. We can't begrudge it. Autumn feels like endowment, intention, crescendo before the heavy curtain. Final bows, then everyone goes home to sleep. Perchance to dream. Dreams are the private dividends of winter. Its precious silence. That snow globe of first flakes. Holiday lights and grandmother's quilt. Hands get messy all over again, this time from chopping harvest, or defrosting soup, or stoking the blinking embers of a local tree which once grew wild. Warmth has simply moved inside.

After my perfect coffee, I slip into Crocs and check the peas. They didn't die last night. In backlit sun, tiny new tendrils seem to be moving. Perchance they dream.

CountyLife

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Healers among us

JERELYN CRADEN

Special to *County Life*

Dear reader,

How fortunate we are to be living in Haliburton. With numerous organizations, events and infrastructure that support and enrich our rural lifestyle, we also have healers living among us. Yes, healers. Individuals dedicated to improving the health of ourselves, our neighbours, our children and their children. From our medical doctors, nurse practitioners, dentists and chiropractors to massage therapists, physiotherapists, and other wellness practitioners, we are fortunate, indeed.

Today, we are going to look at the life and work of Certified Natural Healing Practitioner – Sharon Heilemann. Now, "natural" is a notable part of Heilemann's approach to wellness as the modalities she employs require no medicines, x-rays, blood tests, surgeries, exercises, diets or supplements to improve her clients' health. And many sing her praises for greatly having diminished their health problems or eliminated them completely.

A bit of backstory.

The history of healers dates back to prehistory, with early practices like shamanism involving spiritual intermediaries and herbal remedies, evolving into more formal roles like priests and religious figures. As societies developed, formalized roles like the Hippocratic physicians emerged in ancient Greece, emphasizing natural causes for illness and creating a more systematic approach. In the Middle Ages, folk healers, or cunning folk, used traditional practices, and barber surgeons provided basic surgical services, eventually merging with formal medical practitioners. Today, traditional and modern medicine coexist, with many modern pharmaceutical products derived from traditional knowledge and practices.

Enter, Sharon Heilemann, born in Weston, Toronto, a Haliburton cottager since the 70s and full-time resident since 2020.

Like many who venture into the world of natural healing, Heilemann had first suffered from a health problem that mainstream medicine wasn't able to resolve. "After a year and a half of pain," she said, "sadly, my doctor just blew it off." Then, one day in 2001 when Heilemann, a successful hair stylist, was working on a client, her back pain became so intense that a co-worker (an esthetician who was taking a course in reflexology) told her: "Sit down. I'll get rid of the pain."

"Twenty minutes later," Heilemann said, "I had zero back pain, and I was able to go back to helping more clients." It was this surprising and welcomed relief that inspired her to learn all she could about reflexology.

"I went to every bookstore possible that sold reflexology books and, basically, taught myself." At the salon, when a client would mention experiencing a physical pain, she would place her hands on the area, which helped every time. "I became more and more fascinated by this energy and, eventually, enrolled in a full-time ten-month reflexology course and earned my certification."

At first, Heilemann alternated her hairstyling clients with healing sessions. "Then, when my schedule was filled with healing sessions," she said, "I cut my hair clients back to two dozen."

It didn't stop there.

"I became a healing junky," she said, "certified in numerous healing modalities: acupressure, cupping, Tuina massage, Reiki, Indian head massage, complicated shoulder. But it was in 2016 when Reconnective Healing (RH) changed my life."

Heilemann, who has always practiced out of her own home, describes RH as energy healing. "It's about letting energy, light, and information come through me to you. Your healing can come in many forms: your health, your relationship, your career. There's no end. I learned how to become a catalyst, a conduit, a channel, however you want to think of it. Energy comes through as my hand moves over a client's body. When it stops over an area, and my hand won't pull away … that informs me of an imbalance."

Two years ago, Heilemann became a Certified Zone Technique healing practitioner. Today, 95 per cent of her healings use the Zone Technique, which she describes as: "Reconnective Healing on steroids." Results have proven extraordinary.

For several weeks, local resident Brian Daoust suffered from arthritis and bursitis in his hips. Referring to the pain, he said: "I had 4:30 in the morning wake-up calls." When he heard about Heilemann's Head to Toe Natural Healing, he checked out her website and made an appointment. "I really believe that she believes she can help everybody. That's her mindset," he said. It was after his sixth visit that he not only slept through the night, "I woke up with no pain. And I didn't have to walk down the stairs one step at a time like before, I walked down like normal." Daoust still sees Heilemann for maintenance visits. "It still comes and goes," he said, "but now I have more better days than before."

Sharon Heilemann resides in Haliburton, and has dedicated her life and work to naturally healing those around her. /submitted

Continued on Page 5

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Writing on the Senior Side

Games outside the window

GAIL STELTER
County Life Contributor

Today, the window on my world reveals a blanket of wet leaves and almost bare trees. The window watches the school buses go by. Two little squirrels are chasing each other around the tree trunk. I look out as it tracks each season: the first snowfall that always comes too soon; the winter wonderland and the sound of the snowblower; the arrival of the buds on our maple trees; the burst of colour as the daisies and geraniums bloom; and the swirling rain of leaves and golden shelf across the road. It greets friends and loved ones as they come to visit. I enjoy my window on my world.

Life on the senior side comes with memories of many windows: windows that open the experiences of a lifetime, and windows that let us see the memories of long ago as I view the real world today.

I hardly looked out my first window, the living room window at 21 Smithfield Drive. The TV set and furniture blocked my view. Then my mom moved the Chesterfield under it, and when I knelt up, I saw everything. I watched the kids heading down the street to go to the golf course to go tobogganing. I still recall the frustration of our house rule that if you didn't go to school, you couldn't go outside after school and play. I watched the days when the street was a river as Hurricane Hazel brought rain and more rain. I watch the neighbours and the bread man, and the milk man. However, the Chesterfield under the window did not last long, and that was okay, because, as you well know, we Baby Boomer kids rarely sat inside and looked out the window. We were outside all day, almost every day, and although we went to the park or the school yard, mostly we played on the road, on our street.

Where are today's children playing? Do they play outside almost every day? Do they play in the backyards of their houses in the neighbourhoods and on the rural roads of the Highlands? Do city kids play outside in their neighbourhoods? What games do they play? Yes, I know many of them are engaged in organized leagues and school sports, and that is wonderful. I also realize that unsupervised play or free play is often no longer safe for children. The world seems a more dangerous place, and we fear child abductions and trafficking. While I welcome the care and commitment of "helicopter parents", I also feel sad that this is our new reality. So, today I will take us back and share some of the games kids might still like to play outside in safe settings. I will forgo the perennial favourites always in vogue, such as road hockey, move up baseball, skipping, dodge ball and picnics in the park, and invite you to join me in a few you may not have seen in a while, but you remember from our childhoods.

Ordinary, moving, one hand, the other hand,

All we needed was a red, white and blue rubber ball and the wall of the school, and we could throw the ball and delight. Sing, 'one hand' (using one hand toss and catch), the other hand. Standing first on one foot, then the other foot, singing, one foot, the other foot. Clap at the front, clap at the back, then front and back, then 'back and front', and so on. Did you get all the way to tweedle, twaddle?

Hide 'n seek. We usually played this in the early evening, and it ended, of course, when the street lights came on. It was all ages. No adults. I remember one night, as it was getting dark, one of the kids curled up in a ball on the boulevard, and he got to the "home free" fire hydrant because everyone thought he was a bag of garbage lying beside a garbage can. Such simple genius. My favourite hiding place was in the cover of the flower boxes on the verandas of the old two-story houses on our street.

Games with our card collections. I had a collection of hockey cards. Closies. Do you remember that whoever got their card the closest to the wall won all the other cards? How about "flipsies", like heads or tails, where two kids flipped their cards. The winner was the card that had heads (the picture of the hockey player). Then there was "leanies", when one person leaned one of his or her cards against the wall and everyone took a turn trying to knock it down. If no one knocked it down, the person whose card it was won all the cards that missed. If someone did knock it down or he or she won the leaned card, and any that had missed up to that point.

Marbles and Chestnuts? Conkers. I loved my collection of marbles and especially the cat's eyes and boulders. We played marbles on our street. At school, it was considered a "boys' game". So glad that mentality is long gone. I also loved my shiny chestnuts and using one from my collection to play conkers. My brother used a hammer and nail to put a hole in the middle of the chestnut and then put a shoelace through this, secured in a knot below the chestnut. The fun began. Did you play these games with your collections?

Red Rover, Red Rover, who do you call over? This was not one of my favourites. If I were called to run over, I might bounce off the closed arms and fall on the pavement. If I ran through, I might go headfirst into the pavement, especially if the two kids holding hands decided to let go and let me go flying. I wasn't sad when it was outlawed by the school.

All kids loved to play tag games, and my grandchildren tell me these are still popular. From frozen tag to cops and robbers, we ran around outside. And how about the Cowboys? We chased the outlaws, the bad guys, and when they were caught, we put them in jail. It was exciting if you got to be The Lone Ranger, Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, Annie Oakley or Hopalong Cassidy. It was still fun if it was your turn to get caught. We played on the road, at the park or gully and in and out of our backyards. This game, like some others, was influenced by the new TV shows. Does this still happen? The combination of TV heroes and heroines and our imaginations made for adventurous play.

There are lots more, and I am sure we all have stories of our outside play, what our parents saw out their windows on the world. They watched, and we played. Some of our old-fashioned games have survived the test of time, and others have been set aside. We will always have the smiles and gentle joy that our memories bring.

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Glory days

NOW THAT I am older and have a lot more perspective on life, I'm not embarrassed to admit my best years are behind me. That's not to say there are not any good years ahead of me. There are at least two. Three, tops.

STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

That may be so, but, if I am being honest with myself, I have to admit that I will never again experience the glory days of being two. You see, both physically and in terms of maturity, I am pretty sure I peaked at the age of two.

Some people call them the terrible twos. Not me. Back then the world was my oyster.

When I was two years old I had it going on.

You should have seen me. I had a full head of hair and my big brown eyes looked even bigger. I was of average height, but a lot more flexible. Older women used to fuss over me and wait their turns to hold me close. Sure, I had baby fat, but, unlike now, it suited me back then.

Yes, at two, I had it all figured out.

I didn't have much money or any prospects in life back then – which is not so different than now, I suppose. But at least I was in touch with my emotions. I cried at the drop of a hat – which is why I dislike graduation ceremonies to this day.

Back then, I was a man of few words. So when I spoke, people sat up and took notice. I looked at the world as if it were new. Little things, like jangling keys, fascinated me. Back then, people routinely told me what a smart boy I was too. Yet somehow I took that for granted. After all, even in my earliest memories I was always the smartest one in the womb.

Don't get me wrong. My second year was not perfect.

Hard lessons were learned. Mistakes were made. I recall hitting the bottle pretty hard and spending quite a few nights behind bars. We must have lived in a rough part of town too, because everywhere my parents took me, there were characters who tried to steal my nose. Fortunately, I always got it back. Although, I am still not sure it is the same one I started with.

As smart as I was, I was never the academic type. Try as I might I could never figure out how to put that square peg in a round hole. Or where my dad went after his hands closed.

I still haven't solved those things.

On the plus side, I was dapper.

My wardrobe was daring to say the least. But those were the carefree 60s and anything went, even jumpers that were pretty high up the leg.

Even since then, it has been a slow downhill decline. Now if I were to wear those, I'd be arrested on charges of public indecency. And my "Daddy's Little Boy" T-shirt might put out the wrong message.

Life is not all bad though.

It's nice to drive things other than under-powered vehicles made by Fisher- Price. And while I enjoyed the fact that people celebrated when I went "boom-boom on the potty," it grew old pretty quick. Now, I just want a newspaper and time to myself.

I guess we all change as we age. I am no longer average height. My luxurious head of hair is still blowing in the wind, but not around here.

But, you know, if you shake a set of keys at me, I still can't help but smile. On the other hand, if you try to steal my nose ... well, let's just say I warned you.

Local healer dedicated to Zone Therapy

Continued from Page 3

One month after local resident, Maggie Thompson, continued to suffer with symptoms from a head concussion, "Sharon used a concussion protocol on me, and I couldn't believe the difference. I healed so much faster." Even Thompson's chiropractor was impressed. "Sharon also helped with my frozen shoulder. And, when I get a migraine, she does the Zone Technique on me, and it's like night and day."

Pharmacist Lauren Wilson (Haliburton Village Pharmacy) also sings Heilemann's praises. "As a pharmacist - and admittedly a very skeptical person - I typically lean towards conventional therapies. However, Sharon's ability to accurately sense and treat my upper back/neck ailments has truly astounded me. I usually only require one treatment for full relief of pain. I have since referred several of my patients to her and have returned for treatments myself numerous times."

Zone Therapy was created by chiropractor, Dr. Thurman Fleet, in 1935. In 2019, Dr. Peter Goldman, who learned the technique from Fleet, opened a school called: Zone Technique. Initially developed for chiropractors only, Goldman soon recognized that a healer of any kind could use it. "Because it's not about subluxation or moving a bone," Heilemann said. "It's about bringing in energy to that person."

The technique breaks the body into six zones or systems. The glandular system, elimination system, nervous system (sympathetic or para-sympathetic), digestive system, muscular system, and circulatory system. Heilemann presses six points at the back of the head, each connecting to one of the six zones/systems. She asks which is the most sensitive to the touch, and upon hearing the response, is informed about the system that needs to be balanced.

The spine is the negative pole – the brain the positive pole. When there is an imbalance in the spine, it cannot send the correct message to the brain stem in the head. "I will stimulate four points that relate to that zone/system with light acupressure," Heilemann said, "and then I touch the four points … my hands are on your body and I will send energy through, and when that's done, I'll go back to your head and you'll tell me if there's any sensitivity to that one primary zone and, if not, your body has been balanced and all of the energy can move unblocked throughout your body. You get over 50 million red blood cells every second of the day, so those red blood cells are now free and can release old and damaged red blood cells through the lymphatic system, and your body begins to heal."

Generally, sessions are fifteen minutes in length. The number of sessions needed depends on the individual – everyone heals at their own pace. "Some people come in when they've been told they need full knee surgery or reconstruction shoulder surgery, and heal 100 per cent in one visit, six visits, or four visits." She tells of a client who, after his sixth visit, went back to playing hockey and chopping his own wood - no pain. "That was after he was told that he needed full reconstructive shoulder surgery. And, I've had it happen with knee surgeries where patients were told there was nothing more that could be done, and after a Zone Technique healing and a few points of Reflexology, they were completely healed."

Head to Toe Natural Healing is located on Wigamog Road in Haliburton: 905-713-4652. www.headtotoenaturalhealing.ca.

Jerelyn Craden is a writer, singer, artist, and self-proclaimed foodie.

Based in Haliburton, she loves sharing information that moves one's happy meter to "high."

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Send your letters to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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JUST ADD WATER

Well before I became a parent, I recall hearing a friend of mine - a long-time parent herself - share her secret weapon to day-to-day success: water.

Kids tired after a long day? Just add water.

Dysregulation due to overstimulation? Just add water.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

Early stages of a flu bug? Just add water.

A full meal of spaghetti that's found its way from head to toe? Just add water.

It's a phrase I have found myself repeating time and time again on this parenting journey.

It worked wonders when the girls were small, and now, as we navigate the waters once again through the throes of toddler-hood, we've been relying on water in whole new ways.

Obviously in our consumeristic world, many have tried to capitalize on the power of water, but in the earnest and wholesome way our kids wander the world, they have proven that there's little more you need than a bucket and water.

I fell victim to filling the bathtub with doodads and gizmos; a whale that spouts splashes with flashing lights, an intricate ball system that gurgles and spurts when you pour water down the funnel.

And these were fun for all of ten minutes.

Until he got his hands on a bucket and the faucet.

The simplified joy of small play. Little actions, big imaginations. There's power in giving less, but creating more. Open-ended play allows for a world of creativity, a world they can make entirely their own, where flashing lights and colourful runways keep reins on how far the imagination can wander.

It's been proven that when kids jump into a warm bath on a regular basis, their nervous systems reset, their anxieties are quelled, and they sleep better through the nights. A combination of consistent routine and a calming environment works wonders for regulation. And of course I understand that all kids are different, and there will be good days and bad days, but from my own experience, this works.

And the magic of water expands beyond the bathtub. One of my son's favourite activities is puddle-jumping. I always find this awe-inducing, as this is one of the few things he has not learned from mirroring.

The bulk of his brain is filled with experiences he has learned from seeing, from hearing. He knows our names because we repeat them regularly, he practices eating and teeth brushing because it's what he sees us do, each and every day.

But much to our chagrin, we are not always hopping in puddles. If anything, in our regimented reality that is adulthood, we are actively bypassing the pools of rainwater that litter the ground after a storm.

But not toddlers. He will peek out the window as the last drops are wrung from the tired clouds, and with confidence, grab his rocket-ship rubber boots, his rain coat with the alphabet in rainbow letters splattered across the sleeves, and go on a hunt for puddles.

And the joy he exudes when he sees one. Squeals of delight, a full-tilt run to the centre of the splash. He will stomp his little rubber-clad boots and jump up and down with a glee felt by anyone within earshot.

It's the highlight of his day. And of course, a moment I seal shut in the time capsule of memories I hold onto; ready to be opened up when he makes his way forward in life.

So, when those days feel long, when the nights feel short, when tempers rise and optimism drops, just add water.

Top 10 reasons why cats are drawn to a bed you are making

It never fails. If you start making a bed, a cat will appear and lie down on the first sheet you've laid down. From that point on, making the bed will be a test of perseverance. Why do cats do this to us? Only they know for sure. But here are my top 10 theories.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Morally opposed to hospital corners.
2. Why should you be the first one to sleep on the clean sheets?
3. They need you to stop this nonsense and pay full attention to them.
4. Hoping that you'll tuck them in and then leave them in peace.
5. Contractually obligated to be annoying.
6. Every cat warrior needs to prove their worth by fighting their way out from under one sheet and a duvet.
7. Hoping you'll forget about them under the sheets so they can scare the living crap out of you later.
8. They consider it their mission to make life difficult for humans.
9. New material for their claws to shred.
10. They are conducting yet another psychological study on the limits of a human's tolerance for cats.

Branches

Branches, bending, surrendering to Wind marauding through the trees,
seizing leaves, hurling them up into Air, as they twirl over the trail,
maple and birch and oak leaves freefalling toward the ground, some, landing face down, scraping the gravel,
others, cushioned by layers of fallen leaves, crumpled in heaps along the side of the trail,
I crane my neck up to watch the leaf storm whirling above me, crimson and bronze and tarnished gold leaves
raining down from late afternoon Sky, swelling with charcoal clouds,
the falling leaves stippling Air with splashes of colour on this monochromatic day that waits for Rain,
Wind roaring like the surf through the aspen trees, their leaves quivering on their branches,
their stems still tethered to their twigs, refusing to surrender to Wind,
I listen to the sound of thousands of aspen leaves trembling on their trees,
serenading the ones that are falling all around them, taller than the other trees, the aspens grow in rows,
fringing the trail, their leaves refusing to let go, clinging to their branches as Wind rampages,
unleashing its fury in the trees, a flurry of leaves floating through Air,
my eyes blinking up, watching them fall, as Wind whooshes through me,
unable to topple me from my spot on the trail, where I stand surrounded by puddles of leaves,
reaching up to try and catch one as it falls, landing on my shoulder instead, the crimson maple leaf,
its veins, bleeding green, small enough to nestle in my palm,
I inhale the smell of freshly fallen leaf, its fragrance, clean as Wind that scours Air,
barges through the branches of trees, I release the maple leaf from my hand, watch it flutter toward the ground,
landing face up in a heap of brown and yellowing leaves,
the red maple leaf standing out from the rest of the fallen leaves, rotting on the side of the trail,
I peer down at it as I listen to aspen leaves trembling in their trees, refusing to surrender to Wind,
the flurry of leaves that swirl all around them, snatched from different trees, as their branches bend and sway,
stray leaves passing each other in the Air, sharing the same plight,
I close my eyes for a moment, feeling Wind graze my ears and cheeks,
listening to it roar like the surf through the aspen trees, the leaves trembling on their branches
like a chorus of thousands of voices refusing to surrender to the swelling storm.

Sylvie Kalenda

Moving with the Songs of the Season

TERESA JORDAN

Community Living Contemplations

Autumn is a time of settling down to winter. If you have to take care of a yard you start thinking about what needs to be trimmed and protected for winter. You make plans for snow, getting out shovels and putting away rakes.

All the while holding on to the precious last few weeks of warmth and light. It is a season of settling down for a long winter's nap in some ways. I love my yard and gardens and love spending time in them.

However, I must admit I look forward to the season where the to-do list is shorter, where I am not battling the weeds and growing grass. Where I can just focus on a cozy spot in my house and let the yard just be. I once heard a nature expert talk about the seasons of nature and two things have stuck with me: that spring and early summer is filled with bird song, late summer with insect song and late fall and winter is filled with silence.

As humans for millions of years we were part of these natural rhythms, and I think somewhere inside we do still move with the seasons. I know I start to long for the stillness and silence of winter in nature. The deep rest that it seems to signify, provided you are not trying to drive or having difficulty getting warm. Insect song is coming to a close now that we have had some frost, fall leaves are starting to dance around our cars and feet.

The deep stillness and change in the season is upon us. What will you do to mark it, to settle into the next season, what will you perhaps make quiet for this next while. Our ancestral DNA is attuned, lets get tuned in to that ourselves and take some time to move with songs of the season. Cozy socks, soup, pumpkin spice, indoor activities and a little more quiet in nature all awaits us in this changing of the season.

Stay safe in construction zones: slow down and protect road workers in the Haliburton Highlands

As road maintenance and construction projects continue across the Haliburton Highlands, residents and visitors are being reminded to be on the look out and drive with caution through all road work areas.

The County of Haliburton and local municipalities are urging motorists to slow down, stay alert, and obey all posted signs and directions when travelling through construction and maintenance zones. Reduced speed limits and temporary lane changes are in place to protect both drivers and the dedicated crews working to keep our roads safe and maintained.

Drivers are reminded to:

- ◘ Obey all posted speed limits and construction zone signage.
- ◘ Stay alert for flaggers, workers, and equipment entering or exiting the roadway.
- ◘ Avoid distractions such as cell phones while driving.
- ◘ Be patient – construction work is essential to improving and maintaining local infrastructure.

By working together and driving responsibly, residents and visitors can help ensure that everyone makes it home safely at the end of the day.

For updates on ongoing and upcoming road projects in the Haliburton Highlands, please visit haliburtoncounty.ca.

Haliburton County Community Services and ID Clinic

HALIBURTON LEGION
719 MOUNTAIN ST,
HALIBURTON

10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

DROP IN - NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED

Service Canada
- SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER
- PENSIONS (CPP, OAS, GIS, CPP DISABILITY)
- CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN
- EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
- CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT

WILL NOT INCLUDE PASSPORT SERVICES

ServiceOntario
- HEALTH CARD SERVICES
- PHOTO ID
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

Haliburton Highlands Health Services
- MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
- MEALS ON WHEELS
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

youth wellness hubs Ontario | carrefours bien-être pour les jeunes de l'Ontario
- SUPPORT FOR YOUTH 12-25
- YOUTH SERVICES
- EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

Community Living Trent Highlands
- SERVICES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AND THEIR FAMILIES

DCHC Durham Community Health Centre
- HEPATITIS C TESTING AND TREATMENT
- PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORTS

Haliburton County Paramedic Service
- VITAL CHECKS
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

Kawartha Lakes Jump In
- HOUSING/RENTAL INFORMATION
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- LIFE STABILIZATION
- CHILDCARE FEE SUBSIDY
- CHILDCARE WAIT LIST

Community Legal Clinic Simcoe • Haliburton Kawartha Lakes
- PROBLEMS WITH OW/ODSP OR DENIED ODSP
- PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LANDLORD
- DENIED CANADA PENSION PLAN DISABILITY
- INJURED AT WORK
- FIRED OR DENIED EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OR HAVING PROBLEMS AT WORK, INCLUDING WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT
- HUMAN RIGHTS

FUEL FOR WARMTH Serving Haliburton County
- FUEL SERVICE PROGRAM INFORMATION

FLEMING CREW Employment Centre *(TENTATIVE)*
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- SKILLS TRAINING
- PROGRAM INTAKES

FLEMING Skills On Demand Work & Academic Upgrading *(TENTATIVE)*
- ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (OSSD) COMPLETION
- LITERACY AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS BUILDING
- PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING PROGRAMS
- CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

the Road Ahead Mobile Wellness Clinic
- COUNSELLING AND THERAPY
- SUPPORT WITH ADDICTIONS & SUBSTANCE USE
- HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION
- MEDICATION SUPPORT
- ACCESS TO OTHER SUPPORTS INCLUDING PSYCHIATRY

Rotary Club of Haliburton
- GOOD FOOD BOX

YWCA Peterborough Haliburton
- RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND CRISIS SERVICES

Job Quest Opening Doors to Employment
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- REFERRALS

john howard society Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE FEE WAIVER
- PROGRAM INTAKES
- NALOXONE TRAINING

PARN
- HIV SUPPORT SERVICES
- HARM REDUCTION
- GBMSM PROGRAM
- RAINBOW YOUTH

Central Food Network
- HYDRO HELP (BRING HYDRO BILL)
- TAX FILING (BRING ID, T4S, ETC.)
- ENERGY SAVINGS INFO
- HOME HEATING HELP
- FOOD BANK INFORMATION

- LIBRARY SERVICES
- TECH SUPPORT
- PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

WITH SUPPORT FROM Haliburton Highlands Community Safety and Well-Being

FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR THIS CLINIC AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFO:
(705) 286-1333 X.256
OR CSWB@HALIBURTONCOUNTY.CA

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www.professionalsnorth.com
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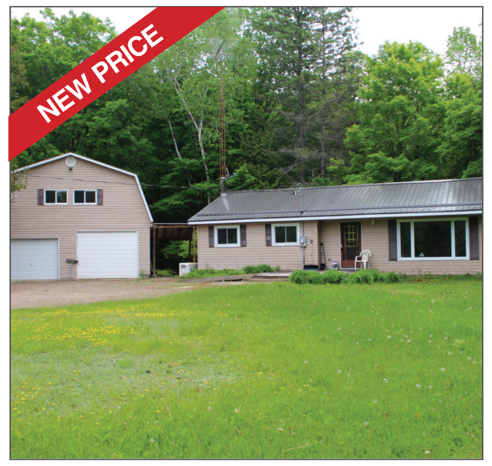
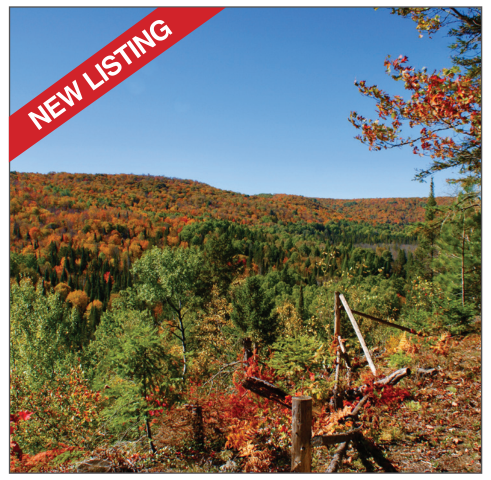
2166 BLAIRHAMPTON ROAD $499,000



1100 SQ. ft. 3 bedroom bungalow sits on private 5.5 acre lot in peaceville Blairhampton - cozy country kitchen and dining area - 4pc bath - new septic 2018 - full w/o basement unfinished - FA propane - 26’ x 40’ 2 storey garage - fully insulated - 2nd floor wide open and carpeted - FA propane heating

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

133 ACRES OF RAW CANADIAN WILDERNESS $399,000



* Stunning Views and Trails Throughout
* 5 Rustic Off-Grid Cabins
* 3300’ of Year-Round Road Frontage
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* Perfectly Poised For Those With A Passion For The Great Outdoors

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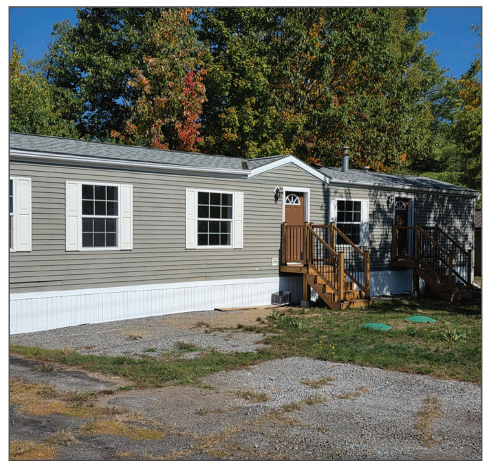
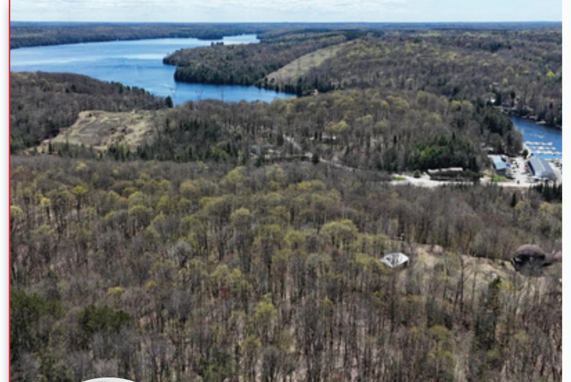
Out Standing In Our Field

HUNTER CREEK ESTATES - $289,000



Are you ready for a low maintenance life style? Check this one out. Hunter Creek Estates: a bright, 2-bed, 2-bath home in a 50+ land lease community, just 5 mins from Minden. Built in 2005, this home features large windows, spacious living room, lovely kitchen, primary with ensuite and walk-in closet. Updated septic and piers. Enjoy a warm community with great neighbours.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com



New Price!

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- **26 ACRES**
- Year-round municipal road
- 342 feet on Osprey Road
- Soyers & Kashagawigamog Lakes within walking distance
- 12 km to Haliburton & 14 to Minden

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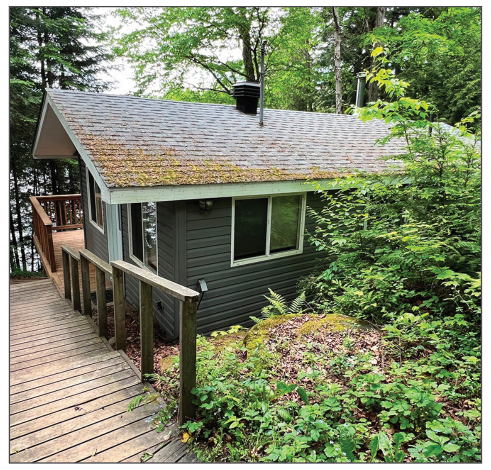
OSPREY ROAD
MINDEN

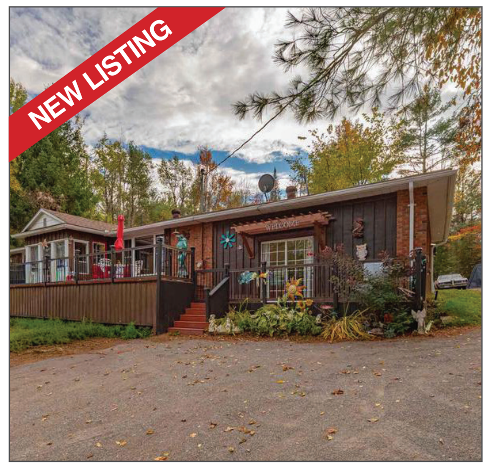
EAST LAKE $459,900



- Peace & tranquility on quiet lake!
- Charming 2 bed/1 bath cottage
- Open concept, cozy inviting layout
- 2 w/os to large wrap-around deck
- Gently terraced lot; nicely treed
- Rocky, sandy shore; NW exposure
- Wonderful fishing & paddling
- Septic; heated lk line/UV; 2 sheds
- No motors at all; private yr-rnd rd

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

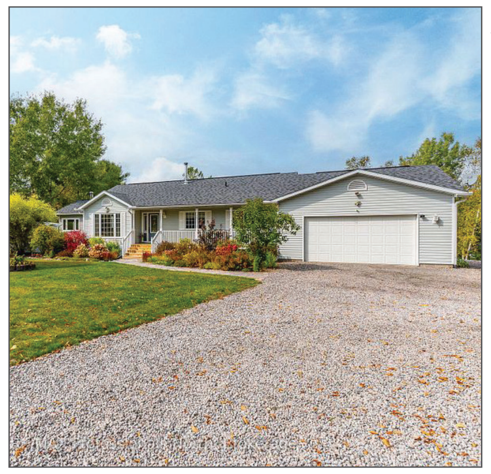
26 REID ST., KINMOUNT $658.000



- Newly renovated home
- Open Concept and Main Floor Living
- 3 bedrooms * 2 bathrooms
- Updated kitchen
- Living Room and Family Room
- Above-Ground Pool and Hot Tub
- Beautiful private lot

Jackie Hardman
Sales Representative
705-879-8041
jackiedhardman@gmail.com

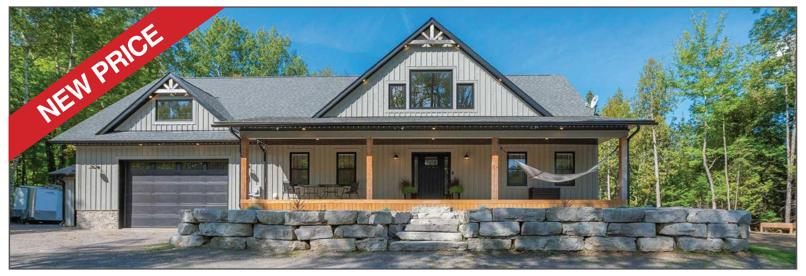
EAGLE LAKE $1,310,000



Beautiful home w/ 4 acres /waterfall & 347 ft. of shoreline on Pine Lake. Mn. Fl. open KIT & LR design w/electric FP & separate DR, guest BATH, master B.R. w/ ensuite & walk in closet & lg 4 season sunroom. Finished walkout basement w/radiant in-floor heat, large FAM room w/propane FP & bar. 2 BR, laundry & BATH on lower level. Lakeside deck, sandy shoreline & stone patio w/fire pit. Att GAR w/ workshop. Year round road, close to West Guilford, Lakeside Golf Club & Sir Sams Ski/Ride, approx. 12 min from Haliburton. This is a must see property to appreciate!

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

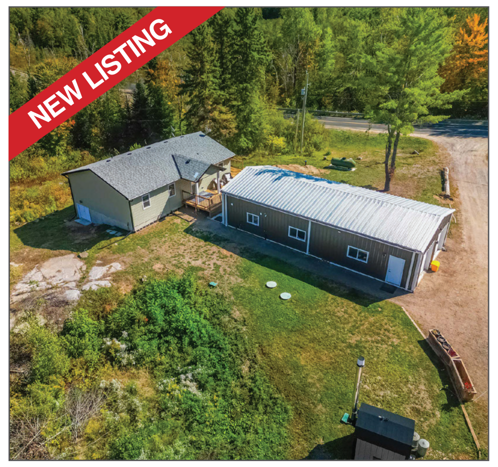
CUSTOM BUILT HOME $1,399,000



- 2 Acres of Land Open to the Back
- Great Room, Open Flow, Main Floor Living
- Garage with InFloor Heating and Work Bench
- Custom Features Throughout this Home
- Minutes to Minden

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

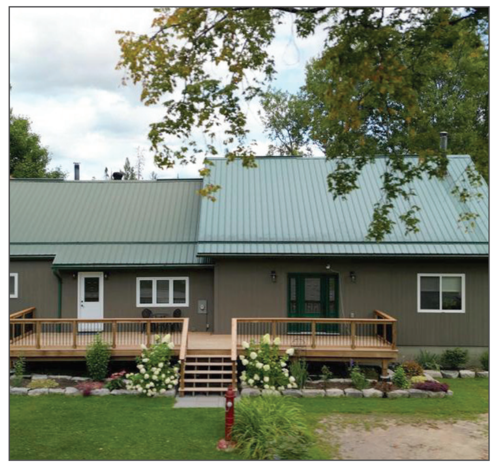
1211 GELERT ROAD $1,200,000



- 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2019 Royal Home. Large deck surrounding home
- 49.9 Acres with trails
- Home is a dual heat system. Can use either forced air propane furnace or forced air wood boiler.
- 55’x24’ shop or office with in-floor heating, steps from the house.
- More outbuildings and storage on the property, Heated greenhouse
- Minutes from Minden and Kinmount

Kelly Mercer
Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

GOODERHAM HOME $559,000



4+1 bedrooms, a grand living room featuring vaulted ceiling, a country-style eat-in kitchen, equipped with a propane stove and quartz countertops. Main floor includes a 4-piece bathroom, 2 bedrooms, upstairs features additional 3 piece bathroom & 2 more bedrooms & 1 more room on the upper floor. Newer propane furnace, windows, central air conditioning, propane BBQ hookup, Maibec siding, seamless eavestroughs, and a newer septic system. Underground hydro and a generator panel.

Lisa Mercer
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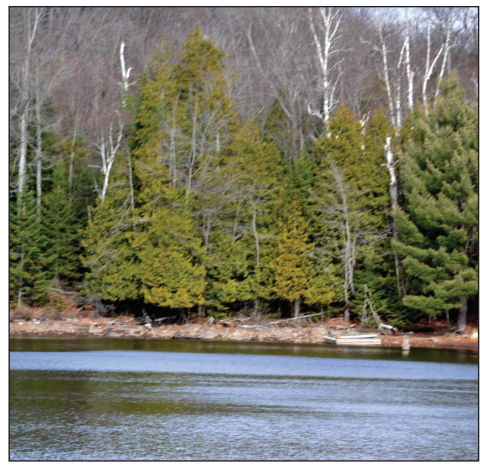
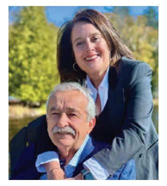
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

DRAG LAKE LOT $319,000

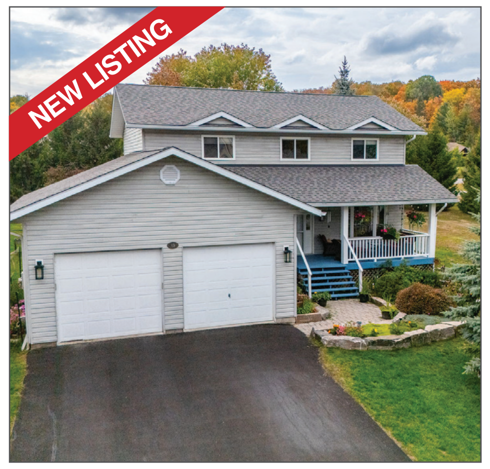


Perfect Lot to Build Your Dream Cottage or Home on Drag Lake. 100 feet of Clean Shoreline! Hydro Available. Year Round Access. Miles of Boating on Drag & Spruce Lakes.



John & Marj Parish
John Parish 705-457-5485
Marj Parish 705-455-2211
Sales Representatives

13 GLEBE RD $839,000



🛌 3 Bedrooms, 🛁 2.5 Bathrooms
📐 2500 sq ft 🌳 .715 acre corner lot
💧 Part of ‘Haliburton By the Lake’ exclusive waterfront with boat slip, boat launch, swimming area & park area w/access to 5-lake chain
🏡 Septic, Drilled Well, 2025 Propane Furnace, Generac Generator, Many recent renovations

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
info@cherylsmithremax
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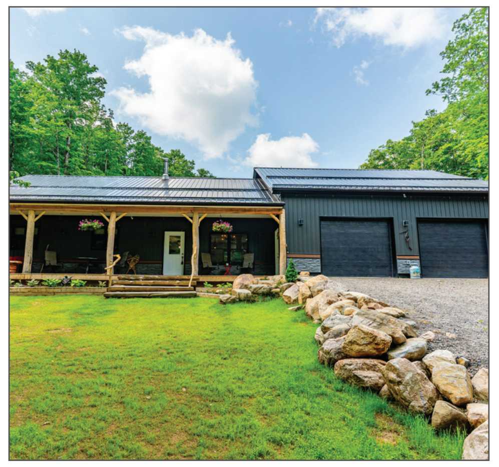
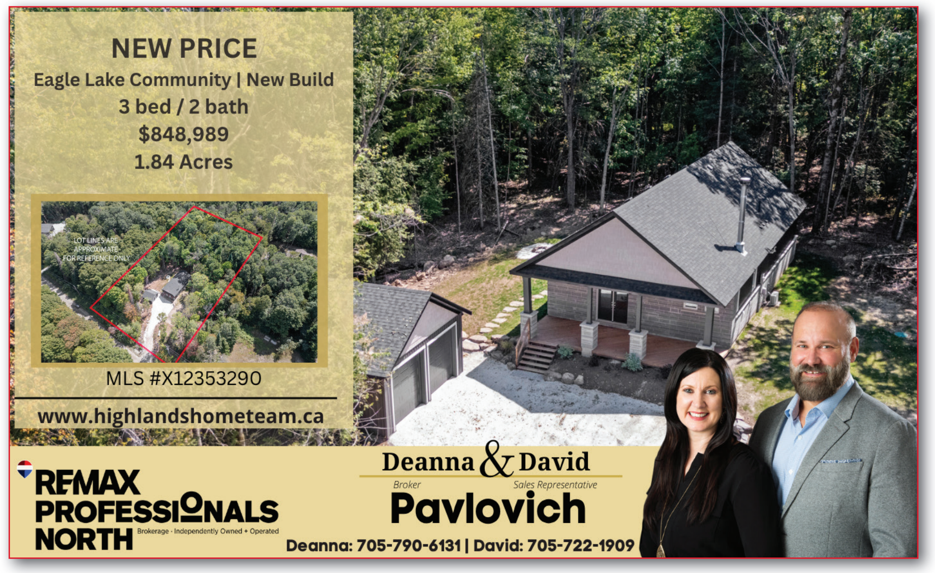
2430 HADLINGTON ROAD $885,000



This custom built (2022) home offers serene privacy and breathtaking forest views. The warm, rustic interior features natural wood finishes. Expansive windows fill the space, inviting the outdoors in. Enjoy tranquil mornings on the deck, and peaceful evenings surrounded by the quiet beauty of nature in every season. Massive garage for a workshop with lots of parking for large vehicles. Just under 10 acres.

Sue Sotiriou
Sales Representative
905-715-4569
sue-sotiriou.remax.ca



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Eagle Lake Community | New Build
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1.84 Acres

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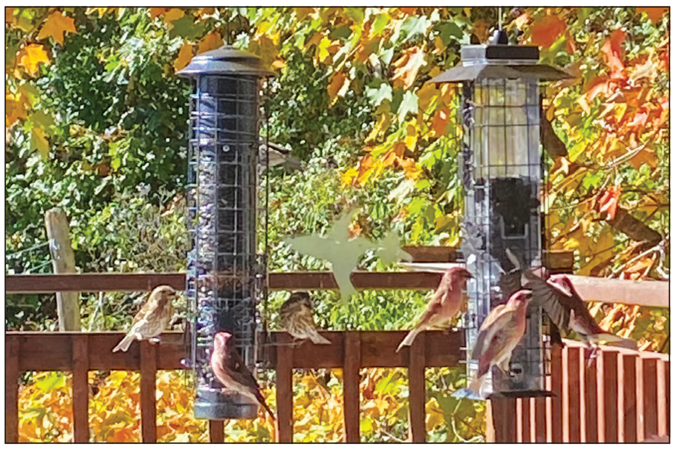
Contact a local realtor today!

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Sunrise by Tammy Nash



Busy birdfeeder by Vivien Mausz

Blue Jay by Jill Moulton

Fall colours by Tammy Nash

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Ducks by Jill Moulton

Deer in the woods by Tammy Nash

Blue Jay takes flight by Vivien Mausz

Morning mist by Tammy Nash

Friday,
Nov. 7th
9am - 4pm

2025 Local Food Forum

Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre

Admission is Free

Light Lunch & Refreshments Provided

Everyone Welcome!

For More Information

harvesthaliburton@gmail.com

harvest HALIBURTON

Together creating a sustainable food system for our community

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SIRCH Meals are funded entirely by your donations!

Gifts from the Heart

Fundraising Campaign 2025

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www.sirch.on.ca/donate

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Game

Muskies VS HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Saturday, Oct. 25 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

WELLINGTON DUKES

Saturday, Nov. 8
4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15
4 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

For more information please visit our website

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

Haliburton Paddle Shop moves to Minden

EMILY STONEHOUSE

County Life Editor

When you walk into the Haliburton Paddle Shop, the space feels alive.

Corey Pietryszyn feels it too. And as he looks around his newly-opened business on the corner of County Road 21 and Highway 35 in Minden, there's an air of possibility.

As a lifelong woodworker, Pietryszyn honed in on his paddle making skills during a stint at Haliburton Forest, where he took the lead on their paddle production, nestled deep in the wild woods of the property.

After a few years, his partner in business and in life, Maria Paterson, joined forces with Pietryszyn at the shop. Before long, they were seeking an opportunity to expand not only their audience, but their skillsets as well. They moved on from Haliburton Forest, ready to spread their wings. "We had taken over the business at the Forest," shared Paterson, "and we ran it out of that location for six months."

But when the Dock Shop opened up their location at 21 and 35, Paterson and Pietryszyn were offered an opportunity to partner with like-minded businesses and manufacturers. "Corey had this great vision," said Paterson. "He took one look around the space, and said we could make this work."

The building would be known by many locals as the former home of County Sign, which has since moved farther along Highway 35. While the space seems small on the outside, with financial backing from Haliburton County Development Corporation, as well as unwavering support from family and friends, Pietryszyn has retrofitted the compact building to accommodate all his needs when creating a paddle. "It tightens the process," he said, "everything has a place, and it's become a nice, tight circuit."

And really, the couple agrees that they do not need all that much space. While they have partnered with a number of outfitters, they are not in the business of mass production. "We're into the custom paddle side of things," said Paterson. "We don't do cookie cutter," echoed Pietryszyn, noting that on average, they aim to create about five paddles a day.

That's the beauty of Haliburton Paddle Shop pieces. Each and every piece is entirely unique. "Custom" does not just mean laser engravings and stencils (though they do offer those as well), it's also the grain of the wood, the style of the blade, the shape of the grip. All the pieces that fit together to allow the paddler an opportunity to connect with nature, to be present in the moment. "A paddle is going to talk to you," said Paterson. "You can pick one up, and know that's the right one for you."

And each piece of wood offers a world of opportunities. With sustainability in mind, Paterson and Pietryszyn make their best efforts to utilize every bit of sustainably sourced wood they can. Scraps from the paddles are whittled down to become charcuterie boards, wooden bowties, or paddle holders. The sawdust is re-purposed for critter beds or garden mulch. The stain on the final product is hemp oil, which is biodegradable and food safe. Every piece of the paddle puzzle is mindfully crafted, masterfully articulated.

"At some point, it stops becoming a piece of wood," reflected Pietryszyn, "and the object begins to take its own shape, its own form."

Paterson and Pietryszyn have had their doors open for a few weeks, at this point, but are still getting into the swing of things with regular hours. Their custom orders have included sales to Japan, Germany, France, and Scotland, to name a few, and they've been catching up on an order from the Canadian Canoe Museum, as well as a number of 'usable art' pieces; paddles used for wedding guestbooks, family mementos, or retirement gifts. They are currently open on random days through the week, as well as most weekends, and encourage anyone interested in seeing the paddle process to come in.

Because at their heart and soul, they are deeply immersed in the community. Utilizing local suppliers for wood, partnering with small businesses to create custom pieces, and following the needs and interests of eager paddlers who explore the hundreds of lakes in our backyard. To reach the Haliburton Paddle Shop, contact 705-457-7071, or visit their website at www.haliburtonpaddleshop.com. They can be found on social media by searching Haliburton Paddle Shop, and maintain an active presence online.

"We're just getting started," said Pietryszyn. "There's so much room for both of us to grow and learn from each other."

Haliburton
PADDLE SHOP
.COM

Partners Maria Paterson and Corey Pietryszyn are happy to open their doors in Minden on Highway 35. The Paddle Shop offers custom made paddles for all events and occasions. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
Tuesday: Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
Special events: May 11 Mother's day breakfast $13.00/person
Friday night BBQ
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome! Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice.
Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 10 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.
Monday:
Oct. 27 Darts $5/player 7 p.m.
Wednesday:
Oct. 22, 29 Darts $4/player 2 p.m.
Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10. 5 to 6:30 pm.
Cribbage League 6:30 – Sign up at the Legion
Thursday:
Oct. 23, 30 Horseshoes $5/player 7 p.m.
Oct. 23 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
Friday:
Oct. 17, 31 Fish and Chips 1pc/$15, 2pc/$20
Oct. 24 Community Care 55+ Lunch $17, noon
Wings and Jam Session $15/lb 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday:
Oct. 25 Halloween Karaoke Party 8pm-1am. Free
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-222

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Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Savouring Stories

When: Thursday, Oct. 23 from 11 a.m. to noon
Where: Highland Grove Library
Join us for a lively and engaging food conversation circle where food, culture, and history meet. We explore the fascinating world of food through stories, history, and shared experiences. No registration required.

PA Day Movie

When: Friday, Oct. 24 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills and Dysart Libraries
Step back in time with Disney's Dinosaur movie – a heartwarming tale of courage, friendship, and survival in a prehistoric world. Movie is rated G. No registration required.

Haunted Haliburton

When: Saturday, Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to noon
Where: Dysart Library in Haliburton Village
Step into the shadows of Haliburton's past and uncover the stories that still echo through our hills, lakes, and historic halls. Join us for a spine-tingling presentation with Kate Butler from the Haliburton Highlands Museum, as she shares eerie local legends, haunted places, and the mysterious tales passed down through generations. All ages welcome. No registration required.

Create you very own Magical Potion Bottle

When: Saturday, Oct. 25 from 2 to 3 p.m.
Where: Dysart Library in Haliburton Village
A bewitching activity for all ages! All materials will be provided, recommended for ages 5+. Registration required. Call 705-457-2241 or email programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca to register.

Beavers - Nature's Engineers Land Trust Discovery Days

When: Saturday, Oct. 25, from 10 a.m. to Noon
Where: 1225 25th Line Road, Algonquin Highlands (parking available on site)
Join Sheila Ziman & Mary Anne Barkhouse to learn more about beavers. These remarkable animals are the world's best engineers, creating new habitats and enriching biodiversity as they work. See how Sheila has been living cooperatively (more or less!) with the beavers in her pond. See beaver lodges, tunnels and other evidence of their work up close and learn about a variety of ways to manage beaver activity on your property. Visit the HHLT website to register. Admission by donation. This event is funded by TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

Registration Now Open for Youth Curling

When: League starts Tuesday, Oct. 28 - Every Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. until March
Where: Haliburton Curling Club
It's just $60 and includes all basic equipment. A great way to have fun and learn new skills! Application forms are available at JD Hodgson Public School or from Russ Duhaime. For more information on the program, contact Russ at 705-457-0497

Genealogy for Seniors

When: Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 12:30 p.m. at the Gooderham Library or 3 p.m. at the Wilberforce Library
Curious about where you come from? Join us for an inspiring introduction to family history research led by Adele Espina of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group, with support provided by the Government of Ontario. This workshop will walk you through the steps of building your family tree — from locating historical records to organizing your research and uncovering meaningful stories from your past.

Genealogy for Seniors

When: Thursday, Oct.30 at 11 a.m. at the Highland Grove Library and 2pm at the Cardiff Library
Curious about where you come from? Join us for an inspiring introduction to family history research led by Adele Espina of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group, with support provided by the Government of Ontario. This workshop will walk you through the steps of building your family tree — from locating historical records to organizing your research and uncovering meaningful stories from your past.

Halloween Storytime

When: Friday, Oct. 31 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Minden Hills Library
Celebrate Halloween with a storytime that's all treats and no tricks! Perfect for children ages 0 to 6, this special event will feature cheerful Halloween stories, lively songs, and playful rhymes – nothing scary, just lots of giggles. Costumes are welcome (but not required).

Blackout Poetry for Adults

When: Friday, Oct 31 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: the Wilberforce Library
This Halloween, get creative! A mix of writing and art where you transform printed pages into hauntingly beautiful poems. Whether spooky, mysterious, or playful, your creation will capture the spirit of the season. All materials provided. No registration required.

Free Hands-on Needle Felting Workshop

When: Friday, October 31st from 1-2pm
Where: the Dorset Library
Celebrate the colours of autumn! Craft a charming miniature pumpkin from soft wool. No prior experience is needed—our staff will guide you step by step through the basics of shaping, layering, and finishing your felted piece. Create a one-of-a-kind mini pumpkin to display as festive fall décor or give as a handmade gift! All materials provided. Registration required. Call 705-457-2241 or email programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca to register.

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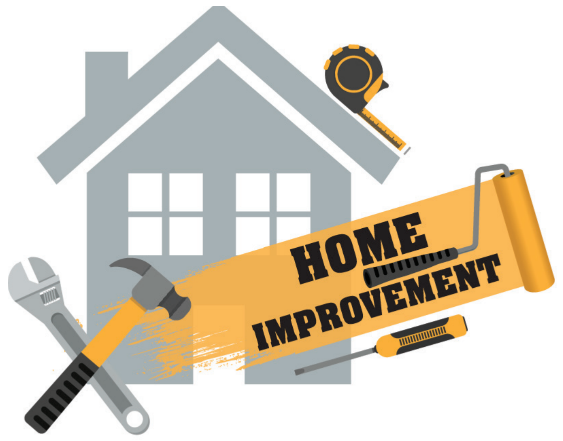

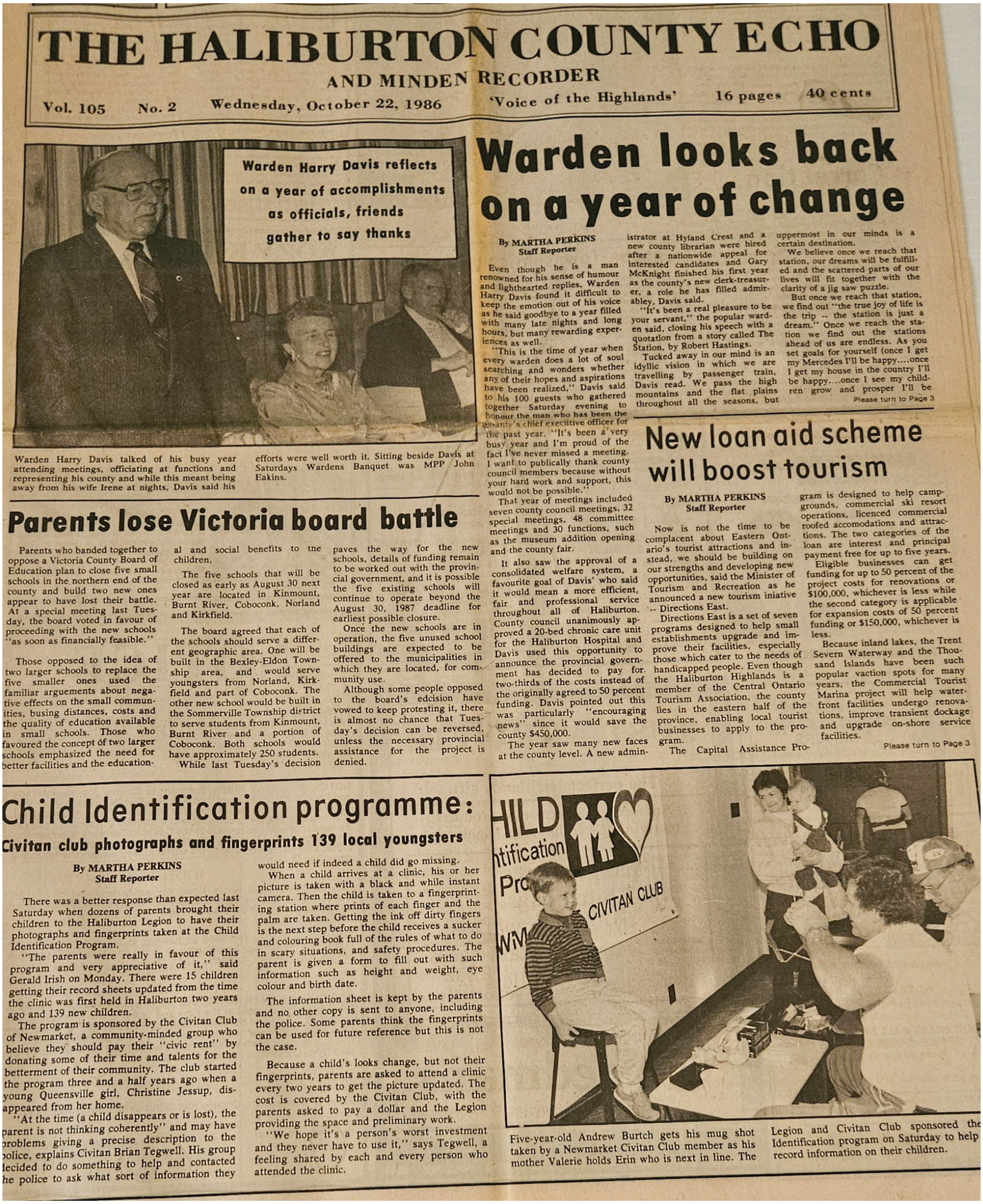

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
AND MINDEN RECORDER
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Warden looks back on a year of change

Warden Harry Davis reflects on a year of accomplishments as officials, friends gather to say thanks

By MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

Even though he is a man renowned for his sense of humour and lighthearted replies, Warden Harry Davis found it difficult to keep the emotion out of his voice as he said goodbye to a year filled with many late nights and long hours, but many rewarding experiences as well.

"This is the time of year when every warden does a lot of soul searching and wonders whether any of their hopes and aspirations have been realized," Davis said to his 100 guests who gathered together Saturday evening to honour the man who has been the county's chief executive officer for the past year. "It's been a very busy year and I'm proud of the fact I've never missed a meeting. I want to publically thank county council members because without your hard work and support, this would not be possible."

That year of meetings included seven county council meetings, 32 special meetings, 48 committee meetings and 30 functions, such as the museum addition opening and the county fair.

It also saw the approval of a consolidated welfare system, a favourite goal of Davis' who said it would mean a more efficient, fair and professional service throughout all of Haliburton. County council unanimously approved a 20-bed chronic care unit for the Haliburton Hospital and Davis used this opportunity to announce the provincial government has decided to pay for two-thirds of the costs instead of the originally agreed to 50 percent funding. Davis pointed out this was particularly "encouraging news" since it would save the county $450,000.

The year saw many new faces at the county level. A new administrator at Hyland Crest and a new county librarian were hired after a nationwide appeal for interested candidates and Gary McKnight finished his first year as the county's new clerk-treasurer, a role he has filled admirabley, Davis said.

"It's been a real pleasure to be your servant," the popular warden said, closing his speech with a quotation from a story called The Station, by Robert Hastings.

Tucked away in our mind is an idyllic vision in which we are travelling by passenger train, Davis read. We pass the high mountains and the flat plains throughout all the seasons, but uppermost in our minds is a certain destination.

We believe once we reach that station, our dreams will be fulfilled and the scattered parts of our lives will fit together with the clarity of a jig saw puzzle.

But once we reach that station, we find out "the true joy of life is the trip -- the station is just a dream." Once we reach the station we find out the stations ahead of us are endless. As you set goals for yourself (once I get my Mercedes I'll be happy....once I get my house in the country I'll be happy....once I see my children grow and prosper I'll be

Please turn to Page 3

Warden Harry Davis talked of his busy year attending meetings, officiating at functions and representing his county and while this meant being away from his wife Irene at nights, Davis said his efforts were well worth it. Sitting beside Davis at Saturdays Wardens Banquet was MPP John Eakins.

Parents lose Victoria board battle

Parents who banded together to oppose a Victoria County Board of Education plan to close five small schools in the northern end of the county and build two new ones appear to have lost their battle. At a special meeting last Tuesday, the board voted in favour of proceeding with the new schools "as soon as financially feasible."

Those opposed to the idea of two larger schools to replace the five smaller ones used the familiar arguements about negative effects on the small communities, busing distances, costs and the quality of education available in small schools. Those who favoured the concept of two larger schools emphasized the need for better facilities and the educational and social benefits to the children.

The five schools that will be closed as early as August 30 next year are located in Kinmount, Burnt River, Coboconk, Norland and Kirkfield.

The board agreed that each of the schools should serve a different geographic area. One will be built in the Bexley-Eldon Township area, and would serve youngsters from Norland, Kirkfield and part of Coboconk. The other new school would be built in the Sommerville Township district to serve students from Kinmount, Burnt River and a portion of Coboconk. Both schools would have approximately 250 students.

While last Tuesday's decision paves the way for the new schools, details of funding remain to be worked out with the provincial government, and it is possible the five existing schools will continue to operate beyond the August 30, 1987 deadline for earliest possible closure.

Once the new schools are in operation, the five unused school buildings are expected to be offered to the municipalities in which they are located, for community use.

Although some people opposed to the board's edcision have vowed to keep protesting it, there is almost no chance that Tuesday's decision can be reversed, unless the necessary provincial assistance for the project is denied.

New loan aid scheme will boost tourism

By MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

Now is not the time to be complacent about Eastern Ontario's tourist attractions and instead, we should be building on our strengths and developing new opportunities, said the Minister of Tourism and Recreation as he announced a new tourism iniative -- Directions East.

Directions East is a set of seven programs designed to help small establishments upgrade and improve their facilities, especially those which cater to the needs of handicapped people. Even though the Haliburton Highlands is a member of the Central Ontario Tourism Association, the county lies in the eastern half of the province, enabling local tourist businesses to apply to the program.

The Capital Assistance Program is designed to help campgrounds, commercial ski resort operations, licenced commercial roofed accomodations and attractions. The two categories of the loan are interest and principal payment free for up to five years.

Eligible businesses can get funding for up to 50 percent of the project costs for renovations or $100,000, whichever is less while the second category is applicable for expansion costs of 50 percent funding or $150,000, whichever is less.

Because inland lakes, the Trent Severn Waterway and the Thousand Islands have been such popular vaction spots for many years, the Commercial Tourist Marina project will help waterfront facilities undergo renovations, improve transient dockage and upgrade on-shore service facilities.

Please turn to Page 3

Child Identification programme:

Civitan club photographs and fingerprints 139 local youngsters

By MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

There was a better response than expected last Saturday when dozens of parents brought their children to the Haliburton Legion to have their photographs and fingerprints taken at the Child Identification Program.

"The parents were really in favour of this program and very appreciative of it," said Gerald Irish on Monday. There were 15 children getting their record sheets updated from the time the clinic was first held in Haliburton two years ago and 139 new children.

The program is sponsored by the Civitan Club of Newmarket, a community-minded group who believe they should pay their "civic rent" by donating some of their time and talents for the betterment of their community. The club started the program three and a half years ago when a young Queensville girl, Christine Jessup, disappeared from her home.

"At the time (a child disappears or is lost), the parent is not thinking coherently" and may have problems giving a precise description to the police, explains Civitan Brian Tegwell. His group decided to do something to help and contacted the police to ask what sort of information they would need if indeed a child did go missing.

When a child arrives at a clinic, his or her picture is taken with a black and while instant camera. Then the child is taken to a fingerprinting station where prints of each finger and the palm are taken. Getting the ink off dirty fingers is the next step before the child receives a sucker and colouring book full of the rules of what to do in scary situations, and safety procedures. The parent is given a form to fill out with such information such as height and weight, eye colour and birth date.

The information sheet is kept by the parents and no other copy is sent to anyone, including the police. Some parents think the fingerprints can be used for future reference but this is not the case.

Because a child's looks change, but not their fingerprints, parents are asked to attend a clinic every two years to get the picture updated. The cost is covered by the Civitan Club, with the parents asked to pay a dollar and the Legion providing the space and preliminary work.

"We hope it's a person's worst investment and they never have to use it," says Tegwell, a feeling shared by each and every person who attended the clinic.

Five-year-old Andrew Burtch gets his mug shot taken by a Newmarket Civitan Club member as his mother Valerie holds Erin who is next in line. The Legion and Civitan Club sponsored the Identification program on Saturday to help record information on their children.

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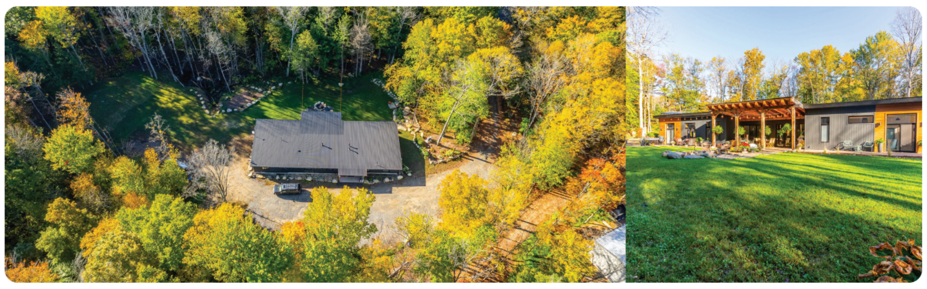

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